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Association for Gravestone Studies e-newsletter

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AGS Spring Cemetery Tour

Spring Tour of historic cemeteries in the Connecticut River Valley

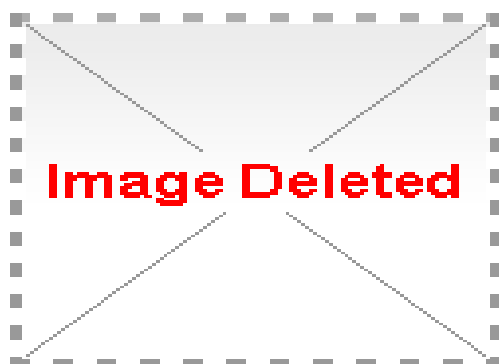
Bernardston, Massachusetts and Winchester, New Hampshire; Saturday, June 9, 10 AM; led by members of the Association for Gravestone Studies-we will feature the work of local slate cutters and hope to include a visit to a local slate quarry.

DIRECTIONS: from I-91, northbound, take exit 28B (from I-91, southbound, take exit 28) and turn right at end of ramp, onto Route 10 south; proceed to junction of Routes

5 and 10 and turn left (south); on your right, you'll see the 7 South Bakery Cafe-pull into the parking lot-we'll meet at the cafe, get acquainted, then drive to the Old Bernardston Cemetery. After lunch (around 2 PM) we'll meet at the Evergreen Cemetery in Winchester, New Hampshire-to join us there, take Route 10 to Winchester, then drive east on Route 119 about 0.75 miles-Evergreen Cemetery will be on your left.

This event is free and open to the public, rain or shine.

AGS Conference & Annual Meeting, 2007



There are five more days to register for the conference--registrations must be postmarked by June 1st. [Click here to download the registration form.](#)

CONFERENCE--GETTING THERE

Manchester, New Hampshire, is a Southwest Air destination and is quite close to Nashua. There are some internet specials to be found on southwest.com. Round trip from Baltimore is just under \$100!

Shuttle service from the airport to conference is available from Thomas Transportation Services. For rates, please visit www.thomastransportation.com.

NASHUA HOTELS AND MOTELS

For those attending conference, but not staying on campus, we've posted information about hotels and motels located near to the college on [the AGS website conference page](#).

THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

Information about the Conservation, Photography, Rubbing and Foil Impression Workshops is now available on the [AGS website conference page](#).

SELF-GUIDED TOURS

The self-guided tours are now posted on the [AGS website conference page](#). There are four self-guided tours to cemeteries within driving distance of Rivier College. On the website you'll find information about and directions to the cemeteries.

LECTURES

This year's lectures will be:

Massachusetts' Native American Burying Grounds--Tom Malloy

Native American Burying Grounds of Cape Cod--Brenda Malloy

"They could not wholly pass away:" The Spread of Thorvaldsen's Sculptural Reliefs

Day and Night on Icelandic Gravestones, 1870-1930--Dr. Allan E. Nash

"To Ponder upon the creations of the chisel, and dream of tombstones:"
A Re-Examination of the Gravestone Work of American Sculptor John Frazee, 1811-1821--Mark Nonestied

Boston History and a Newport Mystery: The Johnson/Wilson/Newbery Gravestone, 1630-1697--Laurel Gabel

Stonecutters and Monument Makers of Old Hampshire County, Massachusetts, c. 1790-1830--An Overview of Changing Times--Bob Drinkwater

Digital Memorials: Making Memorials Physical in a Digital Generation--Matt Newbold

Louisiana's Above-Ground Concrete Burial Vaults--Gerald T. McNeill

Statements of Power: Cemeteries on Indian Mounds--Ian W. Brown

Ethnic Cemeteries of Manchester, New Hampshire--Stephanie Abbot Roper and Scott C. Roper

Headstone Iconography; Documentation and Interpretation of Fraternal Emblems at Greenwood Cemetery, Orlando--Roberta Murphy

"Happy the Babe:" *On the Origin of a New England Gravestone Verse*--Robert J. O'Hara

"It Might Give Fright to the Horses:" *The Egyptian Revival and the Sphinx at Mount Auburn Cemetery*--Joy Giguere

The Cemetery Art of Simas Augaitis--Milda Richardson

PARTICIPATION WORKSHOPS

This year's participation workshops will be:

New Eyes, Old Landscapes - Exploring Cemeteries in the Digital Age--Janet Heywood

The Importance of Archival Preservation of Cemetery Data--Frank Calidonna

Reviewing 25 Years of Slate Gravestone Conservation at King's Chapel Burying Ground, Boston, MA--Kelly Thomas, Ivan Myjer and Josh Craine

Developing Multimedia Presentations For Presenting Cemeteries to the General Public--Marianne Greenfield

Development of Cemetery Tours - What If Nobody Famous Is Buried In Your Cemetery?--Rochelle Christopher

The Application of Geographic Information Systems to Gravestone Studies--Dan Lynch

The Story of "Wylie's Stone"--Karin Sprague

Gravestone and Monument Conservation--Jonathan Appell

The Beauty of White Bronze--Bob Young

The schedule of lectures and participation sessions will be posted on the AGS website as soon as it they are finalized.

Information About Jewish Cemeteries in Nashua, New Hampshire

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 Rabbi Joshua Segal sent in the following information about his publications about Jewish Cemeteries.

"The Temple Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua is the oldest extant Jewish Cemetery in New Hampshire and I have done a booklet titled, *A Self-Guided Tour of the Temple Beth Abraham Cemetery* (Nashua, NH, Copyright 2001)."

For more details on this and Rabbi Segal's other publications, please visit:  
<http://CemeteryJewish.com>.

### **Query: Children's Sections in Graveyards**

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 This query comes from Marilyn Yalom. She writes: "I am looking for historical information about the formation of babies' and children's sections in graveyards. If you have information on how these first came about and are willing to share that information with me for a book-in-progress (to be published by Houghton Mifflin in 2008), please write me at maryalom@stanford.edu. Thank you. Marilyn Yalom."

Call For Papers: Popular/American Culture Association

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 The Death in American Culture Area of the Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Association is seeking proposals for its sessions for the 2007 Annual Conference to be held November 4-7, 2007, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In addition to several paper sessions, this year's half-day-long tour will be to Woodlands Cemetery, established in 1840.

The Call for Papers can be downloaded here:

<http://www.enter.net/~rsauers/mapaca.html>

and further information is available from either co-chair: J. Joseph Edgette, Ph.D. [jjedgette@enter.net](mailto:jjedgette@enter.net) or Richard A. Sauers [rsauers@enter.net](mailto:rsauers@enter.net).

### **Cemetery Preservation Workshop: San Antonio, Texas**

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 Cemetery Basics Workshop, June 16, 2007, from 9 AM - 12 PM. Sponsored by the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. There will be hands-on demonstrations and instructional lectures covering topics such as documentation, iron fence care, cleaning, and conditions assessment. Registration is \$15. For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.ncptt.nps.gov/Cemetery/Default.aspx>.

AGS Member Organization in the News

The *News & Observer* featured a story about the restoration of O'Rorke Cemetery in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Chicora Foundation will be reporting on the best way to preserve O'Rorke.

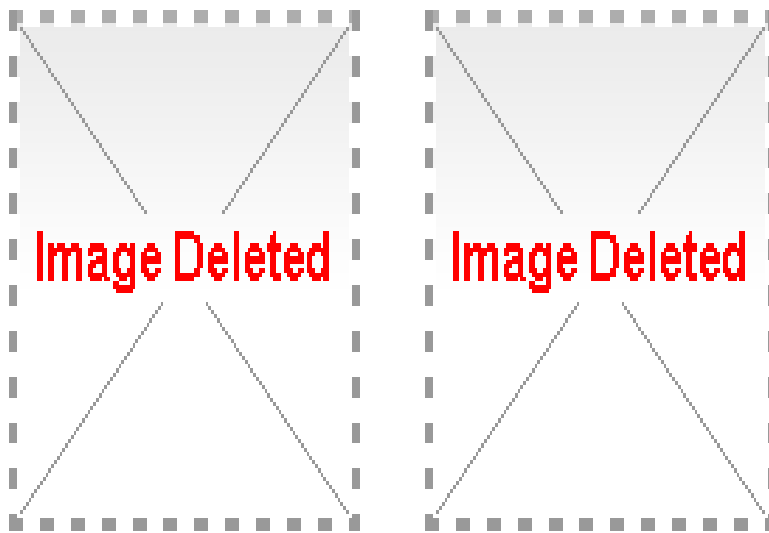
<http://www.newsobserver.com/674/story/573926.html>

AGS Members in the News

AGS Members Jeff Richman and Karin Sprague were featured on CBS News Sunday Morning Show on May 20th. The story, entitled *Rock of Ages*, covered the design of tombstones through the ages, from modest to extravagant; from monumental monuments in granite and marble to the latest high-tech options. For more information, visit:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/1998/07/09/sunday/main13562.shtml>

Information from AGS Member Mike Bieling



Hello all,

I was doing a web search recently to locate information about the older cemeteries in the city of Edinburgh, Scotland, and came upon Alan Wilson's "Monumental Images: A Photographic Stroll through Some Forgotten and Neglected Places" website, at

<http://www.headstones.fsnet.co.uk/default.htm>

This home page has series of links to pages of Wilson's large collection of fine black and white photographs of various cemeteries in Scotland, England, Ireland, and France. An item I thought might interest the many AGS members based in New England is featured on the page for Edinburgh, Scotland, "Monochrome Images - Burial Grounds of Edinburgh", at <http://www.headstones.fsnet.co.uk/Gravesm.htm>

This is a list of more than 25 cemeteries in the Edinburgh region for which selected photographs and basic information are offered. If one clicks on the link for Old Corstorphine Parish Church (1404), at <http://www.headstones.fsnet.co.uk/oldcor.htm>, one will see several views of the gravemarker shown above. This is the only example of a "soul effigy" carved in the round that I've ever seen - our cemeteries out west here pretty much postdate the use of that kind of imagery, and I haven't seen anything like it in the literature or

photographs. Unfortunately, this stone isn't described in the text, and I can't make out the inscription, so I have no idea of its date, but it, and the one behind it, with their classic *Memento Mori* symbols, seem distinctly 18th century. To me, the figure looks a little too crow-like for comfort. But I do wonder, did any such image of a free-flying soul effigy ever inspire an old New England stonecutter?

Best regards,
Mike Bieling, oldcemeteryian@shaw.ca

Events: Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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**In Their Own Words: Laurel Hill In Letters and Diaries**, a walking tour of Laurel Hill Cemetery, will take place on Sunday, June 10th at 2:00 PM.

Original personal letters, diaries and reminiscences found within Philadelphia's most notable libraries and archives will serve as the tantalizing point of entry into this tour of the lives of famous and not-so-famous Philadelphians resting in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The cost is \$15 per person, \$12 for members, \$8 for students; children, free.

**Free at Last, a Walking Tour of Laurel Hill Cemetery** commemorating 'Juneteenth' and the Civil War, will take place on Saturday, June 16th at 2:00pm.

Why are there no black Civil War troops buried at Laurel Hill? Long after the end of the Civil War segregation still persisted-even in death. Many of the famous generals, commanders and decorated heroes buried here achieved their success with the assistance of former slaves and freedmen who fought and died for their own freedom. It was ultimately the collaboration of white and black troops in the Civil War effort that ensured the Union's victory. Learn about the history of the Civil War that has often been overlooked and forgotten. Hear the stories of men-both Black and White-whose shared commitment to the struggle against oppression and racial inequality revealed their true heroism and courage.

The cost is \$15 per person, \$12 for members, \$8 for students; children, free.

### **Laurel Hill's White Bronze Monuments Workshop and Tour**

Saturday, June 30th, beginning at 12:00 PM.

From the mid-1870s, into the late-1930s, Monumental Bronze Company, of Bridgeport, Connecticut produced monuments of cast zinc that are found in cemeteries and town squares throughout the United States and Canada. This PowerPoint-supported workshop will provide an overview of the history of the company, examine the chemical and metallurgical characteristics of zinc, explore some of the noteworthy monuments that were erected across the continent, and discuss issues related to their conservation through a case study. On this walking tour we will visit the four "white bronze" monuments found in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The program will be led by T. Scott Kreilick, president of Kreilick Conservation, LLC, the firm presiding over the restoration of the cemetery's Old Mortality sculptural group, and Richard A. Sauers, president of Lenape Investment Corporation, whose research interests include corporate histories, including that of the Monumental Bronze Company.

The cost is \$35 per person; \$30 for members, and \$25 for students with valid

identification. The program will conclude with a wine and cheese reception in Laurel Hill's historic Gatehouse.

Laurel Hill Cemetery: The Underground Museum is located at 3822 Ridge Avenue in Philadelphia. For reservations or information, please call 215-228-8200, write [tours@thelaurelhillemuseum.org](mailto:tours@thelaurelhillemuseum.org), or visit [www.theundergroundmuseum.org](http://www.theundergroundmuseum.org).

**Event: Forest Hills Cemetery, Boston, Massachusetts**

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Sacred Grounds, Sacred Sounds, a multimedia performance celebrating Père Lachaise Sunday, June 10, 8 PM. Photographer and historian Susan Wilson and violist Rebecca Strauss have collaborated to create an imaginative and enlightening multimedia piece based on their travels to the Parisian cemetery, Père Lachaise. "Sacred Grounds, Sacred Sounds" interweaves music performed by a string quartet and Susan's superb photographs of the art and architecture of this extraordinary French treasure.

The performance will be followed by a flashlight tour of Forest Hills Cemetery.

Tickets are \$25/\$20 for Trust members, which includes the flashlight tour.

For more information, visit Forest Hill's website <http://www.foresthillstrust.org/>.

Article: Barre, Vermont

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The article is posted on [National Geographic.com](http://NationalGeographic.com). It is about the town of Barre Vermont, and includes information about the granite quarries and Hope Cemetery.

**Article: Vandalism in Morristown, New Jersey**

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The article is posted on [the News 10 Now](http://theNews10Now.com) website. Gravestones were vandalized in several Morristown cemeteries.

Contact Information

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